



RELIGION AND IDEAS ROUNDTABLE

MODERN THINKING IN ISLAM SERIES 2019



SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES & COMMUNICATION ARTS

Religion and Society Research Cluster,
School of Social Sciences & Psychology

By Dr Milad Milani (WSU)
& Dr Vassilis Adrahtas (Macquarie)

**Presenter: Associate Professor William
Shepard**

TITLE

The Islamist Paradox

ACADEMIC PROFILE

William Shepard is Associate Professor of Religious Studies, retired, at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch, New Zealand, where he taught from 1978 to 1999. He received his Ph.D. and taught in the U.S. from 1971 to 1978. He has travelled in much of the Islamic world. His primary research interest has been modern Islamic ideological thought, particularly that of Sayyid Qutb, and he has also written on Muslims in New Zealand. He has also authored a text book, *Introducing Islam* (2009, 2014).

ABSTRACT

When we think of originality and creativity among modern Muslims we tend to think of those who can be labelled “modernist”, “reformist” or

“liberal”, but this presentation will argue that we can find originality and creativity also among those we label “fundamentalist”, “Islamist” or “traditionalist”, e.g. Mawdudi, Sayyid Qutb, Khomeini, and maybe even Bin Laden and other “terrorists”. The discussion will explore this suggest and its possible implications.

LOCATION AND TIME

Western Sydney University
Parramatta South Campus, The Female
Orphan School, PS-EZ.1.57 (Geoffrey
Roberson Boardroom)
Friday, 4 October, 10.00am – 12.00pm

